

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, DA

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE PRESS COMMENT: EC FONMINS COPENHAGEN
MEETING

REF: STATE 180911

1. EXCERPTS GERALD WARREN'S SEPTEMBER 11 WHITE HOUSE PRESS
BRIEFING FOLLOWS.

"Q. DOES THE PRESIDENT REGARD THE AGREEMENTS ON THE
DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES BY THE WESTERN EUROPEAN FOREIGN
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MINISTERS AS SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR HIM TO GO TO EUROPE THIS

FALL, AND IF SO, WHEN?

A. WELL, I MUST POINT OUT TO YOU THAT WE HAVE SEEN PRESS REPORTS ON THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE COMMON MARKET FOREIGN MINISTERS YESTERDAY IN COPENHAGEN. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED DETAILS, OF COURSE, FROM THERE.

DR. KISSINGER'S STAFF, AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, WILL BE ASSESSING THAT REPORT WHEN IT IS RECEIVED AND WE WILL, AT THAT TIME, BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU SOME MORE DEFINITIVE WORD. THERE ARE NO FINAL DETERMINATIONS AT THIS POINT, BECAUSE THE MEETING WAS JUST HELD YESTERDAY AND AS I SAID, WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED A DETAILED REPORT.

Q. WHEN YOU SAY "NO FINAL DETERMINATION," YOU ARE TALKING OBVIOUSLY ABOUT A DATE, BUT ARE YOU ALSO TALKING ABOUT A POSSIBILITY THAT THE PRESIDENT MIGHT NOT GO?

A. I AM TALKING ABOUT AN ASSESSMENT OF THE OVERALL SITUATION. NO DETERMINATION ON A DATE WHEN THE PRESIDENT WILL GO TO EUROPE (SIC) AND WON'T BE UNTIL THIS HAS BEEN MADE, AND I MUST AT THIS POINT TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REFER BACK TO WHAT DR. KISSINGER SAID IN SAN CLEMENTE ABOUT THE NATURE OF ANY PRESIDENTIAL TRAVEL TO EUROPE. HE WOULD NOT GO FOR PROTOCOL REASONS, HE WOULD GO BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUBSTANCE WHICH WAS TO BE TALKED ABOUT.

THE DIALOGUE WITH OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES IS CONTINUING, CONSULTATION WITH OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES WILL CONTINUE, BUT WE ARE JUST NOT AT A STAGE NOW TO MAKE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS...

Q. THE PRESIDENT DOES STILL CONSIDER THIS TO BE THE YEAR OF EUROPE THOUGH, DOESN'T HE?

A. THE YEAR OF EUROPE HAS BEEN PROGRESSING SINCE EARLY IN (JANUARY)...

IF I COULD HAVE YOUR ATTENTION FOR A MOMENT TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THAT, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE MEETING THE
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PRESIDENT HAD WITH PRIME MINISTER LYNCH OF IRELAND ON JANUARY 5TH, CONTINUED WITH THE MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER HEATH OF THE UNITED KINGDOM ON FEBRUARY 1ST AND 2ND, AND CONTINUED THROUGH MEETINGS WITH PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI, CHANCELLOR BRANDT, THE PRESIDENT OF ICELAND, PRESIDENT POMPIDOU, VISITS OF OUR REPRESENTATIVES TO EUROPE, AND THE VISIT THE PRESIDENT HAD WITH THE NATO PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES IN SAN CLEMENTE. I KNOW I AM PROBABLY

REMINDING YOU OF THINGS THAT YOU ALREADY HAD WRITTEN DOWN,
BUT, YES THE YEAR OF EUROPE IS CONTINUING, THE DIALOGUE
WITH OUR ALLIES IS CONTINUING, CONSULTATIONS ARE, AND WE
WANT TO WORK WITH OUR ALLIES TO COME UP WITH A STATEMENT
OF PRINCIPLES AND THAT PROCESS IS CONTINUING. RUSH

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